

## RIDE IN CHAISES

The Horse and the 'Spring' Fashionable Events.

Dancing and Coaching Gowns—Behind the Tea—The Diversity of Sleeves—Motor Embroidery, Jackets and Other Shibboleths of '94.

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What, oh what! should we do but for the horse?

Blood than water yet more thickly runs, and there is in the veins of the most timid of us something which looks back to the days when the horse was man's best friend, and closest companion, fighting, or in peace, or in the chase. Once the same word meant "horseman" and "knight," and the saddle was the seat of honor. The new



AN OLD TEA GOWN.

barons of wealth keep alive the old distinctions. To be "horsey" means wealth, requires wealth, is wealth. New York is the most expensive of all great cities to keep a horse in.

So, whether you like it or not—usually you do—goes on the same old round; horse show, pony racing, Jerome park, the coaching parade, the sunrise seed hunt, polo at Newport, the morning gallop in the park—the horse is the center, focus, excuse, conversational topic, twelve months out of twelve, of high society.

More power to his pastern! He pulls the world, does the equine aristocrat; even now, when his brother of commoner clay is driven by trolley and cable from the town. Take coaching alone. It is par excellence the outdoor duty and pleasure of the spring. The through coaching trip from New York

and decked with flippant trippery of lace, and knotted with a satin bow at either side. A velvet collar, velvet again at the elbow, more lace below that, and the tale is told.

I am tempted to talk of sleeves. My Diana of the coaching party had no shoulder cape at all, and sleeves of considerable fullness at the shoulder, but little at the elbow. The sleeve of the tea gown was a mere bulk, concealed by wide collarette; of the tea jacket there was moderate fullness both at shoulder and elbow, and of one embroidered bodice, worn by a fluttering creature with a bonnet which was a mere strip of velvet, the sleeves were a succession of little puffs alternating with the embroidered ground. So there's room for all tastes, and even for the lack of any.

But the prettiest outfit I saw was that of a tall and slender young girl, who had adapted to her own needs a jacket of lustrous dark brown over a bodice of shining white with, I suppose, a touch of yellow in it. And along the lapels hung soft lace, and a fan-shaped, outlying tab of lace covered each shoulder. Black was the buckled belt thereof, and brownish gray and plain its skirt, and crowning the picture came a broad black hat with curling plumes and heavy ribbon bows.

For with tiny bonnets, which do not need them one wears huge bows or ties with big bows, and with big hats beloved by the wind no ribbons ties at all.

Embroidery, moire, huge sash and ribbon ends—there are catchwords and phrases. One walking dress so delicate I wonder how it will look at its fourth wearing, hath a skirt of exquisite pearl gray. At the bottom of the skirt, embroidery straggling from the black waist belt downward, embroidery upon the shoulder tabs, embroidery on the sleeves from elbows down, embroidery; the entire bodice below the yoke, embroidery. But the front of the bodice and the upper sleeve puffs were of soft and sheeny silk.

The colors of the rainbow are but seven. The colors of spring gowns are seventy and seven thousand, one would think, viewing the gay parade on avenue, in park or shop studio. For the studio receptions are beloved of old

flamels artistic or otherwise who see in them good chance for outshining the painted glories on the walls. There are sage greens and grass greens and leaf greens; there are the faint red of cedar heart and the brown of the falling leaf which nature has forgotten. All tints and colors possible seem to meet and mingle in the moving mirage of the street. There is a limit to the possibilities of cutting and making. None there seems to be to colors.

But even of colors there are favorites, and of these the steely blues and grays



BLOUSES AND JACKETS.

to Philadelphia through the green Jersey meadows; past swarming Newark down the red shore of the Middle Karitan valley; through the sandy strip beyond where arabus has just been blooming; past Trenton and other historic towns of the cradle of '76—isn't that a glorious ride! Then there is a coach that plies to the Country club every day, a shorter trip by far, but equally lovely, with distant glimpses of the sound from the winding Westchester roads—who would not wish to so all this from a swaying seat on high or—envied mortal—from the driver's throne itself?

And where may a perfect frock be more perfectly displayed? Where is that sweet simplicity whose praises most we sing when most we flout her, more wisely worn? The most successful coaching gown that I have seen is the simplest; so much so, that pen cannot do justice to it at all. The skirt is perfectly plain and not beyond reason ample; its material, a mixed cloth with a tweed effect, loose looking, but firm. The close bodice was dark blue, with dots of red. The coat was of the mixed cloth again, and in its cut was its distinction. With moderate lapels closing quite high in front it fell away to the edge of the square cut, voluminous skirt. It was the feminine counterpart of the long masculine frock coat of the season, but none of its four big buttons was meant for other use than show. But not the gown after all, the woman it is who gives the gown its color. I think it must be that the wearer's dark beauty and splendid strength bewitched me most. I cannot imagine the gown on a wire dummy.

To horse and woman add—if you believe in the mystic rule of three, which triples everything from accidents to social difficulties—add tea. To be a priestess in the temple of tea is a woman's greatest opportunity. If men worship not in that temple, it isn't because of scorn for the priestesses, but because they are too busy, and because the multitude of femininity present at "afternoon" appeals all but the most inbred. So it is the one social function where woman dresses for woman. For woman's eye she dons such enervating glories as the satin-sashed lace-trimmed oddity I saw recently, or the tea jacket which focuses interest behind the urn at yet another gathering.

This tea jacket was a "dear." I'm not sure that it isn't better than a tea gown, because it looks trim, trim, trim; less languid and more self-reliant. Probably it wouldn't suit all wearers, but a little dark woman of vivacious mien becomes it well. Above a plain skirt of cool gray is worn a blouse front, not of knife plaitings, but of soft, full, creamy folds, confined at the waist by a broad belt of black velvet. The jacket lapels were edged

grow stronger as the sun's heat and height make coolness pretty to the eye. And talking of coolness, a digression: pale green, the color of the sea, in sunshine, with wavy lines running through it, was the material of one lovely dinner dress I recently admired. It was all one shimmer of coolness in the blinking candlelight from the table, when the gas was turned low, except at the shoulders, whereon rested bits of euryclae. And the girl was the green of floating seaweed, dotted with tiny black, and upon the head was a flaunting, nodding crest of shell of the sea tortoise.

Coolness in warmth, warmth in coolness, dark with light and in everything and above all, contrast—that is the ideal. To be cool, a woman needs only to look cool.

Yet I have seen one audacious brunne don the hottest-looking of reds and blaze through the summer heat like a cardinal flower, so that one might mistake her for the spirit of summer. It is the Who and How, after all, not the What, that tells in dressing, as in everything else. ELLEN OSBORN.

**Grumple's Advice.**  
Ragged Richard (insimulatingly)—Say, mister, have yer got enny suggestions ter make ter a feller w'at ain't able ter raise er dime ter git shaved with?

Grumple (passing on)—Yes; raise whiskers.—Buffalo Courier.

**A Mental Ailment.**  
"I suppose it must trouble De Rynter a great deal to find that the powers of his inventive mind are failing."

"It does. He feels now that he can't go fishing."—Chicago Record.

**Evils of Bicycling.**  
Old Friend—You are becoming round shouldered—got a regular stoop. You don't ride a bicycle, do you?  
Man of Family—No, but my boys ride bicycles, and I am paying for them on installments.—Good News.

**Breach of Promise Case in View.**  
Miss Philadelphia—What does it signify when a girl treasures up all the letters her fiance sends her?  
Miss Bynthere—it means that she's distrustful and isn't quite sure of him.—Chicago Record.

**And Slim Was Happy.**  
The father said with asperity.  
The while the daughter hung her head:  
"You must get rid of that young Slim. Next time he comes sit down on him. And when he comes that night he did."

**She Knew.**  
Mrs. X.—Why don't you get a servant girl?  
Mrs. Y.—Oh, dear me! it's all I can do to do my own work without doing a servant girl's work, too.—Truth.

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**A Reorganization.**  
Mr. De Broker—Well, my son, how did you and the boys come out on your peasant speculation?  
Small Son—When we got through I owed the other boys fifty cents.  
"Hum!"  
"Oh, it's all right now. We reorganized."  
"Eh?"  
"Yes, I capitalized at one dollar, gave the other boys half the stock for their debt, and then sold them the other half. So now they owe me fifty cents."  
—Good News.

**He Wished He Hadn't Spoken.**  
The Husband—That's a foolish habit women have of carrying their pocket-books in their hands when on the street.

The Wife—Why so?  
The H.—Well, for one thing, they might be stolen.  
The W.—Well, John, if there isn't any more in them than you give me to put in mine it wouldn't matter much. —Cincinnati Enquirer.

**Astrology Hits One Thing Right.**  
Prof. Longhair—Astrology teaches that a girl born in January will be prudent, good-tempered and fond of dress; if born in February, affectionate, kind-hearted and fond of dress; in March, somewhat frivolous and fond of dress; in April, inconstant and fond of—Hostess—In what month are girls born who are not fond of dress?  
Prof. Longhair—In none, madam.—N. Y. Weekly.

**Taking the Hint.**  
The maiden sleeps,  
With scarce a breath,  
No eyelid peeps,  
How near to death!  
How fair she seems,  
Reposing there,  
In sweetest dreams,  
Within her chair.  
The maiden sleeps:  
Ah, cruel fate!  
Suspicion creeps:  
I've stayed too late!  
—N. Y. World.

**She Didn't Mind It.**  
Bridget's mistress had asked her if she had overheard a rather angry conversation between her husband and herself.  
"Oh, yis, ma'am," replied Bridget. "but sure I didn't mind it. I'm used to it. I'm married myself."—The Waterbury.

**Suppressed News.**  
Little Dick—What are you cutting out of that paper?  
Little Johnny—Something I don't want mamma to see.  
"What is it?"  
"It's a article wot says wooden slippers from Holland are coming into fashion."—Good News.

**A Legal Question.**  
Kitty—She says they're engaged, and he says they are not. Now, what do you think of that?  
Tom—I think it will take a jury to decide.—Puck.

**Liked Surprises.**  
"Do you like kissing?" he asked.  
"All surprises are pleasant," she replied, demurely.—Harper's Bazar.

**Far, Far Away.**



Bashful Youth—I—I—admire you, Miss—ah—Slimmy.

Miss Slimmy—On the principle that distance lends enchantment?—Hullo.

**A Wise Woman.**  
Mr. Trotter—Why did you place Foe and Bell opposite each other at dinner? Don't you know they are bitter enemies?  
Mrs. Trotter—That's just it. I did it on purpose. They spent so much time in glaring at each other that they couldn't each much.—Harper's Bazar.

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